



**Karolinska  
Institutet**

Course syllabus for

# **Applied Biomedical Communication and Professional Development, 7.5 credits**

Tillämpad kommunikation i biomedicin och professionell utveckling, 7.5 hp

This course syllabus is valid from spring 2022.

Course code	4BI116
Course name	Applied Biomedical Communication and Professional Development
Credits	7.5 credits
Form of Education	Higher Education, study regulation 2007
Main field of study	Biomedicine
Level	AV - Second cycle
Grading scale	Pass with distinction, Pass, Fail
Department	Department of Cell and Molecular Biology
Decided by	Programme committee for study programmes in biomedicine
Decision date	2021-10-22
Course syllabus valid from	Spring 2022

## **Specific entry requirements**

At least the grade G (pass) for the part "Biomedicine - Professional Skills" in the course Frontiers in Biomedicine within the Master's programme in Biomedicine.

## **Objectives**

The course is aimed at improving skills in communication that all biomedical researchers require.

On completion of the course, the student should be able to:

Regarding knowledge and understanding

- Identify the skills required in seeking different professional careers.

Regarding competence and skills

- Apply the appropriate style and format to content suitable for communicating with the public and scientific community both in writing and orally.
- Be able to communicate scientific concepts through digital media and images.
- Apply the structure and language style, appropriate for scientific research articles.

Regarding judgement and approach

- Reason and reflect on a biomedical problem/project from a global health perspective.
- Reflect on how to present experimental data ethically
- Reflect on the various dimensions of intercultural competence and their importance for group work.

## Content

The core aim for this course is for the student to recognise, understand and apply the appropriate style and format to content suitable for different purposes and audiences. The course focuses heavily on understanding and improving scientific writing style. It also covers scientific presentation, peer-to-peer feedback and digital media in the biomedical field.

The course is divided into two main parts:

### **Scientific writing in biomedical research, 4.5 hp**

Grading scale: VU

Having completed this part, the student will have further developed their tools for writing professional English. Critical reading, writing and written feedback skills are developed in the context of writing a text inspired by a scientific research manuscript.

### **Personal Development and Applied Biomedical Communication, 3.0 hp**

Grading scale: VU

In this part, the student learns how communication styles, methods and context change with the audience, culminating in the presentation and/or exhibition of scientific concepts in styles appropriate for the scientific community and the general public. A specific focus is placed on illustration and digital communication. The student will also reflect on personal skills that are required for biomedical researchers in different career paths and communication in the international workplace.

## Teaching methods

The learning and teaching activities include written and oral communication exercises with an emphasis on peer-to-peer learning. Structured learning activities include workshops, seminars, expert lectures, hybrid learning activities and an outreach project.

## Examination

Scientific writing styles in biomedical research (4.5 credits). The examination consists of written assignments. This will include a written text in the style of a research article and written peer to peer feedback. Graded Fail/Pass/Pass with distinction.

Personal development and applied biomedical communication (3 credits). The examination consists of written assignments and oral presentations. This will include a scientific presentation, personal portfolio and a graphical abstract. Graded Fail/Pass/Pass with distinction.

Written work is to be handed in before the end of the course according to the times specified in the schedule. To pass the whole course, a grade of at least "Pass" must have been obtained for all parts of the course. To obtain a final grade of "Pass with distinction", a grade of "Pass with distinction" must be obtained for both "Scientific writing styles in biomedical research" and "Personal development and applied biomedical communication".

**Compulsory participation**

Participation in specific workshops, seminars, group and individual assignments, and lectures linked to these parts are compulsory. The course examiner assesses if and, in that case, how absence from compulsory components can be compensated for. A student's study results cannot be finalised/registered until the student has participated in the compulsory components or compensated for their absence in accordance with the examiner's instructions. Absence from a compulsory component may mean that the student cannot compensate for absence until the next time the course is given.

Limitations of the number of examinations or practical training sessions:

Students who have not passed the regular examination are entitled to participate in five more examinations. If the student has failed six examinations/tests, no additional examination or new admission is provided.

The number of times that the student has participated in one and the same examination is regarded as an examination session. Submission of a blank examination is regarded as an examination. An examination for which the student registered but not participated in, will not be counted as an examination.

If there are special grounds, or a need for adaptation for a student with a disability, the examiner may decide to deviate from the syllabus's regulations on the examination form, the number of examination opportunities, the possibility of supplementation or exemptions from the compulsory section/s of the course etc. Content and learning outcomes as well as the level of expected skills, knowledge and abilities may not be changed, removed or reduced.

**Other directives**

The course language is English and examination is performed in English.

Course evaluation will be carried out in accordance with the guidelines established by the Committee for Higher Education.

Oral evaluation in the form of course council meetings will be carried out during the course.

**Literature and other teaching aids**

Specific study material and reference articles will be provided during the course.